

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed November 3, 2003, which was responsive to the applicant's communication on October 3, 2003 (mailed September 24, 2003). The Office Action did not consider applicant's "Supplemental Amendment" mailed October 24, 2003.

Therefore, the applicant requests that the Examiner disregard the "Supplemental Amendment." The present amendment modifies the claims considered in the latest Office Action.

In the latest Office Action, claims 1-5, 9, 11-46, 50 and 53-58 were allowed, claims 6, 47-48, 59 and 61 were rejected, and claims 7, 8, 49, 51-52, 60 and 62 were objected to.

By this amendment, claims 6-7, 47-49, 51-52 and 59-62 have been cancelled

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-5, 8-9, 11-46, 50, 53-58 and 63-67 will be pending.

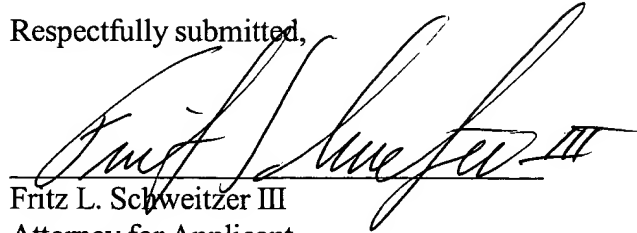
The allowable claims that were dependent on cancelled claims (i.e., the claims objected to) have been rewritten in independent form. Specifically, claim 7 has been rewritten as claim 63 (and claim 8 has been amended to depend from claim 63), claim 49 has been rewritten as claim 64, claim 51 has been rewritten as claim 65, claim 52 has been rewritten as claim 66, claim 60 has been rewritten as claim 67, and claim 62 has been rewritten as claim 68.

Claims 64 and 66 recite that the hard palm oil fraction is separated from a "crystallized slurry," in a high pressure membrane filter. This modification was not made to distinguish the claim from prior art or to otherwise comply with any statutory requirements.

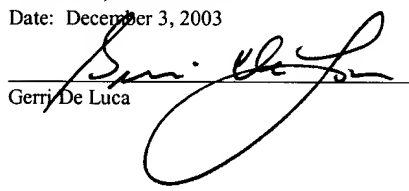
In light of the above, the applicant respectfully requests that the pending claims be reconsidered and allowed.

CUSTOMER NO. 022831
Schweitzer Commman
Gross & Bondell LLP
292 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10017
(646) 424-0770
(646) 424-0880 FAX

Respectfully submitted,


Fritz L. Schweitzer III
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 39,363

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Date: December 3, 2003


Gerry De Luca